IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.(Currently Amended) A dialog system comprising processing units configured for:

[[-]]   automatic speech recognition,

[[-]]   natural language understanding,

[[-]]   generating acoustic and/or visual system outputs,

[[-]]   deriving user ~~models, from~~ models from determined details about ~~the~~ a style of speech of user inputs ~~and/or details about interactions in dialogs between users and the dialog system (1), wherein the style of speech is determined based on factors selected from the group consisting of: the number of polite phrases used, address used, speech level, information density, vocabulary and used of foreign words, number of different words and classification of words of speech inputs with respect to rare occurrences~~; and

[[-]]   adaptation of contents and/or form of the system

outputs in dependence on the derived user models, wherein the

system outputs are adapted ~~in content and/or form in dependence on~~

~~the derived models including an experience level, wherein if the~~

~~experience level is low, the system output is a first length, while~~

~~if the experience level is high, the system output is a second~~

~~length lesser than the first length~~ to the style of the speech of

the user inputs including at least two of a colloquial language,

standard language, dialect.

2. (Currently Amended)   ~~A~~ The dialog system as claimed in claim

1, wherein in addition to the input modality to use user inputs by

means of speech, at least a further input modality is provided and

in that the user models contain details about the respective use of

the various input modalities by the user.

3. (Currently Amended)   ~~A~~ The dialog system as claimed in claim

1, wherein the user models contain estimates for the reliability of

recognition results derived from user inputs.

4. (Currently Amended) A—The dialog system as claimed in claim 3, wherein in dependence on the estimates, system responses are generated which prompt the respective user to use such input modalities for which high estimate values were determined and/or which prevent the respective user from using input modalities for which low reliability values were determined.

5. (Currently Amended) A—The dialog system as claimed in claim 1, wherein fixed models of user stereotypes are used for forming the user models.

6. (Currently Amended) A—The dialog system as claimed in claim 1, wherein user models are used which are continuously updated based on inputs of the respective user.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a dialog system, in which processing units are used for configured to perform the acts of:

[[-]] automatic speech recognition,

[[-]] natural language understanding,

[[-]]   generating acoustic and/or visual system outputs, and

[[-]]   deriving user ~~model, from~~ model from details about ~~the~~
a style of speech of user inputs ~~and/or indications about~~

~~interactions in dialogs between users and the dialog system,~~

~~wherein the style of speech is determined based on factors selected~~

~~from the group consisting of: the number of polite phrases used,~~

~~address used, speech level, information density, vocabulary and~~

~~used of foreign words, number of different words and classification~~

~~of words of speech inputs with respect to rare occurrences; and~~

~~adapting contents and/or form of system outputs in dependence on~~

~~the user models~~, wherein the system outputs are adapted in content

and/or form in dependence on the derived models including ~~an~~

~~experience level, wherein if the experience level is low, the~~

~~system output is a first length, while if the experience level is~~

~~high, the system output is a second length lesser than the first~~

~~length~~ the style of the speech of the user inputs including at

least two of a colloquial language, standard language, dialect.

8.(Currently Amended)   A process for television-user dialog,

comprising the ~~steps~~ acts of:

receiving user speech input;

processing the speech input using automatic speech recognition and natural language understanding; and

defining at least one system output based on the speech input and a user model derived from details of ~~the user~~ a style of the speech ~~inputs~~ input, ~~wherein the style of speech is determined based on factors selected from the group consisting of: the number of polite phrases used, address used, speech level, information density, vocabulary and used of foreign words, number of different words and classification of words of speech inputs with respect to rare occurrences,~~ wherein the at least one system output in content and/or form is based on ~~the experience level of the user model in that if the experience level is low, the system output is a first length, while if the experience level is high, the system output is a second length lesser than the first length~~ the style of the speech input including at least two of a colloquial language, standard language, dialect.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended)   The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the ~~step~~ act of defining comprises:

defining at least one system output based on the speech input and a user model which includes a likely input modality for a current prompt, wherein the system output is based on the likely input modality.

11. (Currently Amended)   The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the ~~step~~ act of defining comprises:

defining at least one system output based on the speech input and a user model which includes a familiarity level, wherein the system output is based on the familiarity level.

12. (Currently Amended)   The process as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the acts of:

receiving a user face image; and

determining a degree of despair based on the user face image; wherein the ~~step~~ act of defining comprises:

defining at least one system output based on the degree of despair.